Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-11

COME-00 AGR-20 AID-20 OMB-01 IGA-02 RSR-01 /138 W 003159

R 030933Z AUG 73 FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5345 INFO AMEMBASY PHNOM PENH AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EGEN, EAID SUBJECT: RICE

REF: BANGKOK 11910

- 1. UNCLASSIFIED. SUBSEQUENT TO REFTEL EMBASSY OBTAINED TRANSLLATION OF OFFICIAL RTG NOTIFICATION ON REPORT ING STOCKS OF RICE. THE DATE OF THE NOTIFICATION IS JULY 27 AND THE PEROD GRANTED FOR REPORTING RICE STOCKS WAS FIVE DAYS FROM THE DATE, OR UNTIL AUGUST 1. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS MUST BE FILED ON THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH.
- 2. REFTEL ALSO REPORTED LIFTING OF EXPORT BAN ON PARBOILED AND BROKEN RICE. PARBOILED IS RICE SOAKED IN WATER AND THEN DRIED. IT REQUIRES LESS WATER FOR COOKING AND ALSO COOKS MORE QUICKLY THAN ORDINARY RICE, BY VIRTURE OF WHICH IT IS POPULAR IN DRY, RICE EATING COUNTRIES, MAINLY MID-EAST AND PARTS OF AFRICA. PARBOILED RICE NOT GENERALLY EATEN IN THAILAND. APPARENTLY HAS A STRONG ODOR. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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3. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER

THAT HIS MINISTRY ESTIMATE THERE ARE ABOUT 100,000 TONS OF BROKEN RICE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE IN THAILAND, OF WHICH 60,000 TONS OF GRADE A AVAILABLE FOR EXPORT. HOWEVER, THIS AMOUNT CONSTITUTES A FORM OF RESERVE AND CONSEQUENTLY WILL BE RELEASED FOR EXPORT BY STAGES UNTIL SECOND RICE CROP HARVESTED IN NOVEMBER. REMAINING 40,000 TONS WILL BE RETAINED INTHAILAND TO BE USED FOR NOODLES FOR DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION.

4. GLUTINOUS RICE OF TYPE PURCHASED BY USAID LAOS IN BANGKOK NOT INCLUDED IN TWO TYPES ON WHICH EXPORT BAN HAS BEEN LIFTED. SUCH RICE ONLY OBTAINABLE THROUGH TRADITIONAL FORM OF GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT PURCHASES. EMBASSY HAS CONFIRMED THAT CABINET DID NOT ACT AT REGULAR TUESDAY MEETING JULY 31 ON USAID LAOS REQUEST, (THAT EMBASSY SUPPORTED VIA DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE) FOR 13,000 TONS GLUTINOUS RICE. WIL WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR INCLUSION OF THIS RICE EXPORT ITEM ON AGENDA FOR NEXT CABINET MEETING AUGUST 7. UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: n/a Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 03 AUG 1973 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO11984

Document Number: 1973BANGKO11984 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A Film Number: n/a From: BANGKOK Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730860/aaaabsgx.tel Line Count: 81

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE Office: ACTION EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 73 BANGKOK 11910 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 05 DEC 2001

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <27-Dec-2001 by golinofr>

Review Markings:

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE Subject: RICE TAGS: EGEN, EAID

To: STATE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005